

APPROVED AS AMENDED ON 1-12-06

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CAC PUBLIC HEARING**

**DECEMBER 8, 2005**

**PORTSMOUTH CITY HALL**

**7:00 P.M.**

Present: Chairman Bob Layton, Vice Chairman Cicero Lewis, Jean Pecunies, Nancy Emerson, Dani Rooney, William Thorpe, Lynne Langley, Stephen Lichtenstein, Algene Bailey

Staff: Cindy Hayden, Deputy City Manager; David Moore, Program Manager

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Chairman Layton opened the meeting and moved to the first agenda item, which was acceptance of the minutes from the September 26th, 2005 meeting. Ms. Rooney moved that the minutes be accepted and the motion was seconded by Mr. Lichtenstein. All voted in favor.

Chairman Layton then recognized Ms. Hayden who explained the CDBG budget process and what type of projects are eligible for CDBG funding. Ms. Hayden stated that the amount of FY 2006-2007 entitlement funding is not yet known.

Chairman Layton then recognized Mr. Moore who made a presentation about the CDBG program, including eligibility of CDBG projects and examples of recent past projects in the areas of neighborhood public facilities, accessibility, and affordable housing.

At the conclusion of Mr. Moore's presentation, Chairman Layton opened the meeting to the public for comments and input.

Stephanie Krenn, Co-Chair of the Atlantic Heights Neighborhood Association, thanked the Committee for its support for projects in the Atlantic Heights in the past. She noted that the increased public investment has improved the neighborhood and resulted in community projects, which benefit the neighborhood. She referred to neighborhood clean-ups, the adopt-a-spot program, and garden club activities as specifically adding to the sense of community in the neighborhood. She stated that the neighborhood was interested in continuing the work on Phase II of the Preble Way and Crescent Way Streetscape Improvements. Ms. Krenn stated that the neighborhood would like to see design work undertaken for another street in the neighborhood. Specifically, Ms. Krenn suggested that Raleigh Way be chosen for design funding in FY 2006-2007. She said that development proposals for the neighborhood would increase the pressure on the existing infrastructure and that this next street was important for any future growth in residential units.

In addition, Ms. Krenn said the neighborhood would like access to water for the adopt-a-spot on Crescent Way and an electric outlet for Hanscom Park.

Chairman Layton then recognized Brian Wyatt, Executive Director of The Housing Partnership. Mr. Wyatt said he wished to support the requests made by Ms. Krenn on behalf of the Atlantic Heights Neighborhood. He said impacts related to potential increases in new residential units in the neighborhood would be lessened with continued improvements to the infrastructure.

Chairman Layton then recognized Susan Chase, Executive Director of the Community Child Care Center who spoke in favor of continued funding for the Public Service Agency Grant Program. She said her agency has received funding in the past and, as a result, has been able to assist eligible Portsmouth families with tuition assistance for childcare services.

Vice Chairman Lewis suggested that in future presentations, Mr. Moore consider more fully explaining the history of the CDBG eligible areas in Portsmouth. Specifically, Mr. Lewis suggested that members of the public be made aware that neighborhoods previously eligible for CDBG funds, namely the Cabot Street and McDonough Street neighborhoods, are arguably no longer eligible because of the significant public investment which occurred through the CDBG program in the 1990's. Ms. Hayden and Mr. Moore both said they would make sure that this was mentioned in future presentations.

Seeing no one else from the public wishing to be recognized, Chairman Layton closed the public hearing at 7:45 p.m.